


SC Commission on Higher Education

CACRAO 2007 Annual Conference
December 2-5, 2007



Changes to General Eligibility Requirements for All SC Scholarship and Grant Programs

Certify that the he/she has never been convicted of any felonies and has not been convicted of a **second or subsequent** alcohol or other drug-related misdemeanor offenses within the past academic year (excluding Lottery Tuition Assistance Program (LTAP))



LIFE Scholarship & Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancements



Initial Eligibility Criteria for a Scholarship Enhancement

Students who are enrolled at an eligible four-year institution as a sophomore, junior or senior year of college enrollment at an eligible institution must meet the continued eligibility requirements for the base LIFE or Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and be majoring in an eligible mathematics or science discipline.



Initial Eligibility Criteria for a Scholarship Enhancement (cont'd)

Incoming 2007 Freshman Class & Thereafter

Beginning with the Fall 2007 freshman class and thereafter, all students must have successfully completed a total of at least fourteen credit hours of instruction in mathematics and life and physical science courses with a minimum of six hours in mathematics and a minimum of six hours in life and physical science including one laboratory course by the end of the student's first year of enrollment in college* (based on initial date of college enrollment).



Fourteen Credit Hour Requirement

Students may use credit hours earned by the end of the first year of college enrollment (based on initial date of college enrollment) in the following courses to meet the fourteen credit hour requirement for the Scholarship Enhancement:

- Exempted credit hours earned on a transcript at an eligible institution (only);
 - Advanced Placement (AP) credit hours earned on a transcript for a grade of three or more on an AP exam at an eligible institution (only);
 - International Baccalaureate (IB) courses;
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Fourteen Credit Hour Requirement (cont'd)

- College Level Examination Program (CLEP) earned on a transcript of an eligible institution;
- Pass/Fail credit hours for courses with a grade of "Pass";
- Credit hours earned in high school while in a dual enrollment program at an eligible institution;
- courses taken during the summer session immediately prior to the student's initial college enrollment;



Fourteen Credit Hour Requirement (cont'd)

- Credit hours earned in summer school at an eligible institution;
 - Credit hours earned at in-state eligible institutions; and
 - Credit hours earned at out-of-state eligible institutions.
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Fourteen Credit Hour Requirement & the LIFE Scholarship and Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancements

Students cannot use credit hours earned (based on initial date of college enrollment) in the following courses to meet the fourteen credit hour requirement for the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement:

- All credit hours earned for continuing education courses;
 - All credit hours earned for remedial/developmental courses;
 - All credit hours earned in non-degree credit courses for an associate's degree or higher; and
 - All credit hours earned for courses taken after the end of the student's first year of college enrollment (based on initial date of college enrollment).
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Continued Eligibility Requirements & Scholarship Enhancements

Students must meet all of the following criteria to renew eligibility for a Scholarship Enhancement each academic year:

- Meet all eligibility requirements by law and regulation for the LIFE Scholarship or Palmetto Fellows Scholarship and be a recipient of State Scholarship funds at the time of Scholarship Enhancement disbursement;



Continued Eligibility Requirements & Scholarship Enhancements (cont'd)

- Meet all eligibility requirements by law and regulation for the Scholarship Enhancement; and
 - Must be enrolled full-time at an eligible four-year public or independent institution in SC as a declared major in an eligible science or mathematics program.
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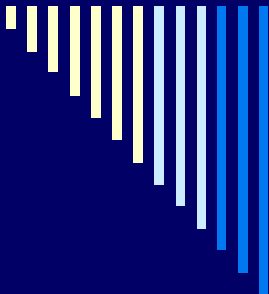
Continued Eligibility Requirements & Scholarship Enhancements (cont'd)

- Students who meet the continued eligibility requirements by the end of the spring term and who enroll in Maymester or summer term will not be eligible to receive the LIFE Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement if their cumulative grade point average falls below the minimum 3.0 "LIFE GPA" requirement by the end of the summer term resulting in ineligibility for a LIFE Scholarship.
- Students who do not meet the continued eligibility requirements to receive the LIFE Scholarship cannot receive a Scholarship or LIFE Scholarship Enhancement for the following academic year.
- Students may be eligible to receive the maximum number of terms of eligibility for a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement based on initial college enrollment (maximum of six terms of eligibility).



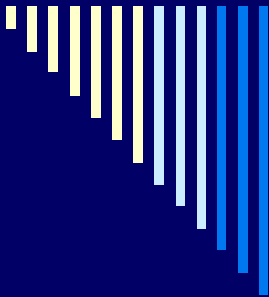
Transfer Students & Scholarship Enhancements (cont'd)

Students transferring to an eligible public or independent four-year SC institution may be eligible to receive a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement or a Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement provided they meet the continued eligibility requirements for the base scholarship, as well as the initial eligibility requirements for the enhancement (declared major and 14 credit hours).



Transfer Students & Scholarship Enhancements (con't)

The student applied for and was offered a **Palmetto Fellows Scholarship** as a senior in high school but declined the award to attend an out-of-state institution and is now reapplying and transferring from an out-of-state institution to an eligible public or independent four-year institution at the end of the academic year. The student must meet all eligibility requirements and be a Palmetto Fellows Scholarship recipient at the end of the first academic year in order to be awarded the **Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement** beginning the fall term of the second, third and/or fourth year of enrollment.



Transfer Students & Scholarship Enhancements (con't)

A Palmetto Fellow reapplying and transferring from an out-of-state institution to an eligible public or independent four-year institution at the end of the academic year must have first been offered the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship out of high school and declined the award. Secondly, the student must fill out a transfer form with the Commission on Higher Education. Finally, the student must have earned a 3.0 “Institutional GPA,” the minimum 30 credit hour requirement and the 14 credit hour requirement in mathematics and science in her first year of college enrollment.



Transfer Students & Scholarship Enhancements (cont'd)

A **LIFE Scholarship** recipient transferring from an out-of-state institution or from an in-state four-year institution to an eligible public or independent four-year institution mid-year (i.e., spring term) can receive LIFE Scholarship Enhancement funds during the Spring term of their second year of enrollment if they have met the requirements for continued eligibility for the LIFE Scholarship, as well as met the initial eligibility criteria for the LIFE Scholarship Enhancement.



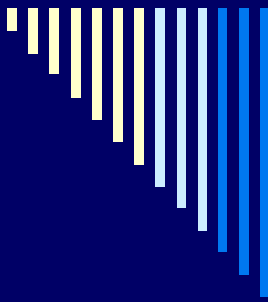
Transfer Students & Scholarship Enhancements (cont'd)

A LIFE Scholarship recipient transferring from a **two-year institution to an eligible public or independent four-year institution at the end of the academic year** must earn a 3.0 LIFE GPA and a minimum average of 30 credit hours by the end of each academic year of enrollment (based on initial date of college enrollment) to receive a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement beginning the fall term of the second, third and/or fourth year of enrollment.



Transfer Students & Scholarship Enhancements (cont'd)

Students who begin their initial eligibility for the LIFE Scholarship at a two-year institution can receive a LIFE Enhancement if they meet the 14 credit hour requirement during their first year of enrollment, meet the continued eligibility requirements for the base LIFE Scholarship and transfer to an eligible four-year institution for their second, third, or fourth year of enrollment.



Note: Transfer students enrolled full-time in an eligible, approved five-year degree program may be eligible to receive a LIFE Scholarship Enhancement or the Palmetto Fellows Scholarship Enhancement in their fifth year of college enrollment (based on initial date of college enrollment after high school graduation).



SC HOPE Scholarship Change

The new maximum amount of the SC HOPE Scholarship for students is now \$2,800 (There has been an increase in the book allowance by \$150).



SC Need-based Grant Change

The “Academic Year” will include summer semester. This allows a full-time student an extra semester to earn a minimum of 24 credit hours for continued eligibility. This also allows a part-time student an extra semester to earn a minimum of 12 credit hours for continued eligibility.



SC Need-based Grant Change

Part-time and full-time students may only receive Need-based Grant funding for up to two semesters of the academic year. Students who have already been awarded their first baccalaureate degree are not eligible to receive a Need-based Grant .



Awarding Need-based Grants

The new language allows the NBG to will make awards in amounts to be defined in accordance with the Need-based Grants Program regulation and criteria, but not to exceed \$1,250 per eligible part-time student and \$2,500 per eligible full-time student per academic year, based on the institution's allocated funds for Need-based Grants and other financial aid awarded to individual applicants.

The funds may be awarded in any combination of fall, spring or summer semesters, as long it does not exceed two semesters of awarding. Fifty percent of the Grant will be awarded in any of the two semester combinations within the academic year.



Duration of Award and Continued Eligibility

- For graduation purposes, full-time students must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours for each semester they are awarded the NBG. (Must complete a minimum of 24 credit hours by the end of the academic year)
 - For graduation purposes, part-time students must complete a minimum of 6 credit hours for each semester they are awarded the NBG. (Must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours by the end of the academic year)
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Program Administration and Audits

Institutions no longer have to return all unused funds 45 days after the last day to register for the spring semester of the academic year to CHE. Institutions can use unused funds for students who are enrolled in the summer term. Institutions in need of additional NBG funds may no longer request additional funds from CHE after 45 days after drop and add for the spring semester.